

## Many Top Jobs Await College Grads

Whether it's jobs or transfer, Alfred State College—a major educational center for Dansville-Wayland area students—graduates continue to "look good."

Figures contained in the college's latest placement report show that the class of '86 compiled impressive figures in starting salaries, in securing jobs related to their field of study, and in successful transfer to baccalaureate degree programs.

Compiled by Carol Woughter, director of placement, the report contains such highlights as these:

In 19 out of 48 academic programs, there was 100 percent placement of graduates in jobs directly related to their studies.

Overall, 92 percent of those employed, found work in their field.

Average starting salary for the class was \$14,523, but at least one grad in seven programs listed a starting salary of more than \$25,000.

Graduates transferred to 61 different colleges and universities.

Elaborating on the report which is based on an 81 percent response from 1,196 graduates, Mrs. Woughter said that for the second straight year, Court Reporting grads led in salaries with an average of \$20,014. Other curriculums in the salary "top 10" included:

Chemical Technology \$19,201; Computing Graphics Technology \$19,096; Food Sales and Distribution \$18,700; Mechanical Engineering Technology—Product and Machine Design option \$18,593; Nursing \$17,545; Air Conditioning Technology \$17,132; Construction Engineering Technology \$16,880; Electromechanical Systems \$16,660.

Also regarding salaries, she said that not only were there six programs in which at least one graduate reported starting income of \$25,000, but that in two of the

seven—Truck and Diesel and Electromechanical Systems—grads reported a salary which topped \$35,000. In two of the other six programs, the high mark exceeded \$30,000.

In a 12-year comparison of her placement data, Mrs. Woughter found that a slightly higher percentage of Alfred State graduates now opt to transfer to a four-year college.

The study shows that in 1975, only 24 percent transferred into a baccalaureate program, while 30 percent of the class of '86 (287 students) decided to continue their education.

Mrs. Woughter says that one of the "most significant" figures in her 12-year study was the 91 percent under the category "employed in their field." The figure was slightly higher the past two years at 92 percent.

"We're pleased with this statistic because it indicates that our graduates are receiving the relevant skills training which employers seek when adding to their work force," she explained.

"This ability of our graduates to find positions related to their studies also shows that they often have a competitive edge over others seeking jobs; we believe this competitive edge is the result of excellence of their Alfred State education," she observed.

Regarding transfer, she said that of the 287 graduates who transferred to a four-year college, 55 percent are continuing their education at colleges within the State University system. However, Rochester Institute of Technology is still the college which attracts the most transfers from Alfred State, with 38 members of the class of '86 now enrolled there.

Regarding recruitment activity in 1986, Mrs. Woughter reports that representatives of 80 companies were on campus and conducted interviews with 989

students. Of the recruiters, 57 percent represented companies in Monroe or Erie counties, while there were also some from such states as Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Florida, Ohio, Maryland, North Carolina, and West Virginia.

Other highlights of the report: Agriculture—There continues to be many more jobs than graduates. For example, in landscape development, there were 25 job opportunities for every graduate; there were 12-month jobs in contrast to five years ago when many of the positions were seasonal. While there are still many jobs on farms, there is increased demand for employees in such service areas as landscape construction and maintenance, sales, and ag. mechanics. Average salaries are often misleading since many jobs include such special fringe benefits as housing and board.

Business—Secretarial Science graduates continue to be in great demand, particularly by employers in Rochester and Buffalo areas, employment agencies continually report that their clients request Alfred State graduates

because these graduates' skills are outstanding. Retail Business Management graduates find many employment opportunities since the service section of the nation's economy continues to grow.

Engineering Technologies—As a school, Engineering Technologies continues to boast the highest average salary (\$17,389). Graduates were sought by the most number of recruiters—35 out of the 80 companies visiting the campus.

Allied Health—Only one percent of the graduates of Allied Health programs failed to secure employment in their field of study. As hospitals continue to experience nursing shortages, Alfred State nurses continue to be in great demand. Representatives from 55 hospitals throughout the Northeast visited Alfred State just last fall to recruit nurses.

Vocational School (Wellsville Campus)—Eighty-nine percent of the graduates of this school (209) entered the job market after graduation—highest percentage of any school in the college. There continues to be a strong demand for mechanics.

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